

REMARKS

Claims 1-30 were pending in this application. Claims 3, 8, 10, 12-17, 25, and 27 are cancelled without prejudice to pursuit of these claims in a later application. Claims 2, 7, 9, 11, 21, 22-24, 26, 29 and 30 are currently amended. Upon entry of this amendment, claims 1, 2, 4-7, 9, 11, 18-24, 26, and 28-30 are pending and under active consideration.

Claim 2 is amended to contain the limitations of cancelled claim 3. Claims 7 and 9 are likewise amended to contain the limitations of claims 8 and 10, respectively. Claim 11 is amended to contain the limitations of claims 12-17. Claim 20 is amended to pertain to a sample derived from a patient. Support for amended claim 20 may be found throughout the specification as filed, notably at paragraph [0092]. Claim 21 is amended to be dependent on Claim 20, and is further amended to contain the phrase "comparing the number of T cells determined in step (b) with a control." Support for amended claim 21 may be found throughout the specification as filed, notably at paragraph [0066]. Claim 22 is amended to be dependent on Claim 20, and is further amended to contain the phrase "comparing the number of T cells determined in step (b) with a control." Support for amended claim 22 may be found throughout the specification as filed, notably at paragraph [0067]. Claims 23 and 24 are amended to be dependent on claim 1. Claim 26 is amended to delete reference to cancelled claim 25. Claim 29 is amended to be dependent on Claim 28. Claim 30 is amended to be dependent on claim 29.

Because the amendments are supported by the application as originally filed, Applicant respectfully submits that no new matter has been added. Applicant respectfully requests entry of the amendments and remarks made herein into the file history of the present application.

CONCLUSION

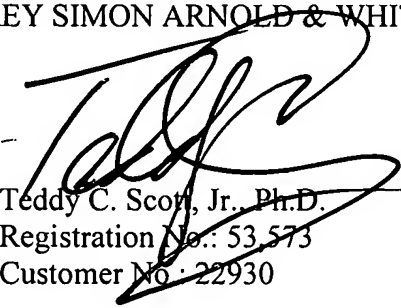
Applicant respectfully submits that the instant application is in good and proper order for allowance and early notification to this effect is solicited. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of the instant application, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: February 4, 2005

By:



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